Framework for Effective Land Administration - Nine Pathways to Transformational Change

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SUMMARY

An important and significant milestone for land administration globally arrived when the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) welcomed and adopted the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) at its 10th session in 2020. FELA makes explicit the connection between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the domain of land administration. FELA is a strategic and high-level framework that should enable the professional domain to communicate its need at all levels. The 5Ps (people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships) of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) demand effective land administration, realised through integrated geospatial information, for land policies, tenure, value, use and development. Therefore, FELA puts member states in the driving seat when it comes to establishing, strengthening, co-ordinating and monitoring their land administration systems nationally or sub-nationally. It further directly aligns with the overarching Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) and implements the IGIF for the land sector. FELA's nine strategic pathways, which provide the compass for implementing FELA can be considered by itself or with others. Each pathway comes with a specific objective, related back to the SDGs and the IGIF, and leads to the articulation of approaches, methods and tools, specific to land administration and management, that can be used at national level for the implementation of the FELA. Nevertheless, implementation will vary from country to country, based on national priorities and context. In this paper, we examine what these pathways may mean for member states operating within the land administration sectors at various maturing levels. We consider differences between member state contexts where digital infrastructures are already in place and those in more developing contexts.

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